

**SIG Academic Committee Meeting  
September 12, 2005, 12:30-2 p.m.  
Country Inn & Suites, Lincoln**

- In Attendance:
  - Glen Palmer
  - Alyssa Kruizenga
  - Alan Thomkins
  - Deb Anderson
  - Chris Kratochvil
  - Mark DeKraai
  - Richard Wiener
  - Todd Glover
  - Sue Sheridan
  - Blaine Shaffer
  - Clifton Hogancamp by telephone
  - Jonah Deppe, visitor
- Introductions
- Overview of the last meeting - Todd Glover
  - Goals of the Academic Committee:
    - Want to help identify Best Practices in the field
    - Will come up with a list of state sponsored programs
    - Compilation of standards for Evidence Based Practices
    - Make sure policy makers are using the available research relevant to their field
    - Come up with recommendations for policy makers in the state in promoting evidence-based practice
- Review of State Initiatives
  - Reviewed Packet of Initiative Descriptions
  - Blaine Schaffer indicated that the list is a good inventory of state and local initiatives for children's mental health and substance abuse.
  - Todd/Mark- Might help to identify what programs are promising. Maybe a survey to determine it
  - Alan- Another option is to talk to the leadership of these projects to determine what they consider to be evidence-based practice in their initiatives. See if the evidence matches up with the best practices. This would be easier for the committee. Are there any initiatives that are missing?
  - This list is not exhaustive. It is a living document and we can always add new initiatives. We could add research on evidence based practices. Ask the leaders of these initiatives what sorts of EBP's they know of or have available?
  - Agreement that identifying EBP's supported by these initiatives is a good one.



- Disadvantages: Might miss some EBP's. Any information that leaders have concerning EBP's will be compared to national standards. A compilation allows us to hear what people in NE think about national and state EBP's.
- Review of best practice guidelines:
  - Criteria/Standards for determining best practices (Deb)
    - Created a list. Deb thought it seems too academic. It would be nice if someone could look at this and know concretely what I am supposed to do.
    - Could we look at an issue and then list the EBP's underneath? We need to establish a framework.
    - Rich- Could we give leaders a model and say, tell us why your work fits in with EBP's.
    - The problem is that practioners will tell us what they think we want to hear, not what is actually occurring.
    - One important criteria is the objective data/outcome of the practice.
    - Are we going to look at every single one of them or come up with a general standard of what is important?
    - Are we thinking comprehensive or specific to certain fields? Schools v. Mental Health v. Psychiatry
    - What is a child? Up to 21.
    - Are we looking at co-occurring substance abuse and mental illness or separate? All 3
    - It would be great to identify literature. Ultimately, we should look at whether the EBP matches the policies? Are policies promoting the best practices?
    - There are enough commonalties across disciplines in standards for EBP that we should be able to pick out some general guidelines and apply them across disciplines.
    - There is little consistency in published articles and meta-analyses on EBP's and often the authors do not state their criteria for evaluating whether a practice is an EBP.
    - Also the issue of the different techniques within any given discipline and across different phases of treatment: Intake, Interviewing, Assessment, etc.
    - 2 step process: level of research criteria and the areas of mental health
    - List – Some use a coding system which would be different from looking at each construct individually and looking for commonalities.
    - Meta-analysis option. However need to be clear about what is good and what is inadequate. We can't rely on these otherwise.
  - Steps:
    - Look at a handful of standards
    - Identify commonalties
    - Identify EB Interventions for specific Children and Substance Abuse Mental Health Issues.



- Deb - Willing to compile the list. Need to know what is missing?
  - See APA Division 12 Clinical
  - See APA Division 16
  - Want criteria for the research, not the practice
  - Like to see several of those models of criteria
  - Need a research standard that is easily communicated to policy makers. Also needs to be in a comprehensible format.
  - Let Deb know where she should be looking and help decide what should be taken off the list. Then we'll go through it again.
- List of Researchers – Rich and Sarah
  - Purpose – Identify researchers to see who is doing research on what and how it influences policy. Want to provide policy makers with a resource to get together to gather more information from a researcher.
  - There is an absence of policy makers. Would be good to have some of those involved in our meetings and decision making process.
  - Suggestions for additional researchers- Please send to Rich and Sarah via email
  - We also need brief descriptions of the research being conducted by each researcher.
- Next Steps:
  - Deb will put together models for standards. Criteria for what constitutes EBP's-1 month
  - Get Rich and Sarah additional researchers
- Next Meeting:
  - Friday, October 14, 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. at the Lancaster County Extension Office, 444 Cherrycreek Road in Lincoln